

# Arlington Reservoir Aquatic Plant Control

The Arlington Reservoir has become infested with a number of invasive aquatic plants: water chestnuts, Eurasian watermilfoil, curlyleaf pondweed and coontail. The most problematic of these are the water chestnuts (*Trapa natans*) which in addition to covering much of the surface of the water with an impenetrable growth produce obnoxious floating seeds with vicious spikes.

The Water Chestnuts can be controlled physically by removing the plants and the growing seeds before they are released in late summer. The Town of Arlington through the Department of Public Works has engaged Aquatic Control Technologies to mechanically harvest the seeds starting about July 27. This work will take about six days. The seeds will be dried on shore for a few days near the Res Beach parking lot before being taken away for incineration.

Since the mechanical harvesting can not get all the plants, especially those near the shore, there is also the need for some hand harvesting. This is a fairly simple process involving canoes or waders. If you'd like to help out with this effort, which needs to be done before the end of August, send an email to [info@arlington2020.org](mailto:info@arlington2020.org).

Website: [www.arlington2020.org/reservoir/](http://www.arlington2020.org/reservoir/)

